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POLISH OFFICIALS SENTENCED

GUILTY OF PROFITEERING -- Nowy Swiat, No 77, 19 Mar 50

The Court of Appeals in Katowice found nine directors and higher officials of the Centrostal state enterprise in Zabrze guilty of bribery and operating to the detriment of the national economy. St. Kalfas, the director, was sentenced to 8 years in prison, St. Gaweda to 5 years, J. Romanek to 6 years, L. Gostecki, J. Tarach, and E. Halecki to 3 years, and E. Domanski and M. Konopka to 4½ years. At the same time the accused were fined 100,000-300,000 zlotys. The prosecutor charged the defendants with receiving bribes, profiteering, and selling allocated goods to private firms.

The Court of Appeals in Gdansk gave a decision in the case of the director and officials of the state canning industry. Leon Romanowski, director of the Zjednoczenie Canning Factory in Gdynia, was sentenced to 8 years in prison, T. Dabrowski to 3 years, and M. Jesmanowa to 4 years. Romanowski as the director of the factory sold 6,000 kilograms of herring on the free market, and in this manner acquired around one million zlotys. He was also accused of taking bribes from consignees of the factory.

The Court of Appeals in Warsaw sentenced Ryszard Schutty to 7 years in prison, Wladyslaw Lenart to 5 years, and Anton Cybulski to 3 years. All three of the accused were officials of the Ministry of the Treasury in Warsaw and were guilty of blackmail.

The Court of Appeals in Rzeszow sentenced Bronislaw Michalowski, director of the Samodzielnosc cooperative store in Miejsce Piastowe, to 7 years in prison for the embezzlement of over 800,000 zlotys.

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CHARGED WITH MISAPPROPRIATIONS -- Dziennik Polski, No 10, 11 Jan 50

In May 1948, a camp was opened for 1,200 tubercular children in Rabka. Unfortunately, conditions were such that instead of improving, the health of some children at the place became worse. Charges of misappropriation were brought against the camp's management by a delegation of Krakow's Commission for Special Investigations.

The defendants to be tried by the Appellate Court in Krakow are: Wincenty Kazimierz Ferster, manager of the camp; Zygmunt Potocki, alternate manager and supply chief; Henry Tokarz, chief auditor; Ludwik Niemczyk, alternate supply chief; Ignacy Sienkiewicz, superintendent. These men are charged with misappropriating 66 million zlotys, including approximately 50 million zlotys from the Ministry of Health and 10 million zlotys from the Social Insurance Institute and other institutes, and grants from UNRRA and UNICEF.

Buildings at the camp were decrepit and lacked sanitary facilities. Although located in the worst part of Rabka, approximately 6 million zlotys were paid as rental for a few months. Children slept on cots, with coverlets and no bed linen, in overcrowded rooms.

The management also pocketed money from the sale of 11,700 combs from UNRRA, 21,000 sewing-machine needles, and 180 kilograms of cocoa.

CHURCH REFUSES COLLECTIVE-BARGAINING AGREEMENT -- Dziennik Polski, No 13, 14 Jan 50

Not long ago, the Catholic University's senate in Lublin prohibited the students of that university from joining the Federation of Polish Students' Organizations.

Recently, the Bishop's curia in Lomza broke off conferences with the Trade Union of Agricultural Workers and Employees and refused to sign a collective-bargaining agreement with the workers employed on the church estates in the Lomza diocese.

Father Olszewski, representative of the Lomza Curia, would not accept the conditions stipulated in the agreement. Bishops' curiae in Gniezno, Krakow, Warsaw, Wroclaw, and others, signed collective-bargaining agreements identical to the one offered and refused by the Bishop's curia in Lomza.

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